

Howard County Consumer Affairs Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for February 3, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:102 pm.

- Present: Sue Rogan, Richard Green, Katherine Bronstein, Felicia West
- Absent: Jerome Jackson, Jill Bussey, Ashlyn Hood

Minutes of the January meeting were approved as read.

OCA Administrator's report

Becky provided the Board with Google Analytics for OCA's web pages. The total number of unit views of the OCA pages combined has gone up substantially. OCA's home pages and scam alert pages are particularly popular. At the Board's request, Becky will e-mail the report to them with the meeting minutes.

Discussion of Advisory Board Project – Student Loans

The Board continued its discussion of a National Consumer Protection Week event "Know Before You Owe – A Student Loan Forum and Resource Fair."

- Three of the six organizations to whom panel invitations were extended have committed (HCC, MdOAG, and MDHC). Board members are still waiting to hear from the other three (HCPSS, USDE, CFPB). The Board also discussed possible alternate panelists if those already invited cannot attend
- Becky will have the flier updated (to include panel organizations, and information about pre-registration) and a press release drafted by 2/10/16.
- Other responsibilities for the event were discussed. Becky will provide the board with an outline of what assignments Board members have already agreed to and a list of what still needs to be assigned. The Board agreed to hold a conference call on 2/22/16 at 7pm to make last minute assignments. Sue will arrange the conference call and provide members with instructions.

Other business

Becky updated the Board on the status of the proposed reorganization of Howard County Housing and the Department of Citizen Services. The County Counsel hearing on the Executive proposed legislation will be on 2/16/16 and is open to the public.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE BOARD WILL BE HELD AT 7 PM ON APRIL 6, 2016
OFFICE OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS CONFERENCE ROOM
6751 COLUMBIA GATEWAY DRIVE, COLUMBIA, MD 21046